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AMERICAN REVIEW OF EASTERN ORTHODOXY



VOL. 5 NO. 3 MARCH 1959

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VOLUME V NUMBER 3 MARCH 1959

AMERICAN REVIEW OF EASTERN ORTHODOXY



ROUND THE WORLD WITH THE CHURCH

FOREIGN

Metropolitan Boris of Odessa and Kherson praises religious spirit in U.S.A. Russian Orthodox Metropolitan Boris of Odessa and Kherson praised the 'religious spirit' in the U.S. and in particular the work of the religious press.

Metropolitan was interviewed in Moscow by Religious News Service after returning from a months' visit to the U.S. as Exarch for North America and the Aleutians, of the Moscow Patriarchate.

The 65-year old churchman said the only criticism he could offer of the religious life in the U.S. was that too little time seemed to be given to religious services and sermons, as compared with Russia. As to the religious press, however, he said he had no reservations whatsoever; he was impressed with the up-to-the-minute coverage of significant events. He contrasted the excellent press work of the various American religious bodies with the Journal of the Moscow Patriarchate, which 'published November material' in its January issue.

Metropolitan Boris expressed thanks, in particular, to the National Council of Churches in the U.S. for its 'attitude of good-will, which gave me an opportunity to become acquainted with its religious activities'. He said he shared the Council's wish to maintain contacts with the Russian Orthodox Church, which were established in 1956 when Metropolitan Nikolai of Krutitsy and Kolomna visited America.

Stating that the purpose of his trip to the U.S. was to visit parishes belonging to the Russian Orthodox jurisdiction, he said he considered his mission 'fruitful and necessary'. 'There has been no permanent Exarch there for the past three years....I am glad to say that not only the group recognizing the Moscow Patriarchate considered me its spiritual father, but also the voices among separated Russian Orthodox believers, including Metropolitan Filaret, are urging reconciliation with Moscow.'

Metropolitan has his permanent residence at Odessa, where he occupies a two-story mansion overlooking the Black Sea. A 700-seat church is attached to the mansion.- ED.

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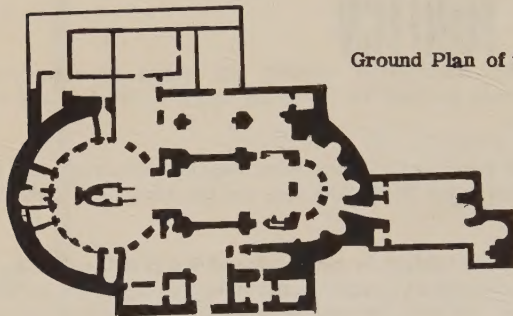
STAGE OF RESTORATION OF HOLY SEPULCHRE CHURCH COMPLETED. The final phase of restoring Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulchre, one of the most revered of Christendom, has been completed. Angelos Mallios, the famed Greek architectural engineer in charge of the work. A team of three architects, Mr. Mallios included, is cooperating on the project. (Joseph Mousallah, of the Armenian community, is one of the other archi-

teers. Work of restoration began last November. Mr. Mallios, a specialist who has labored on the ancient Greek temples in Greece, said his 15 master craftsmen have been employed for immediate repair of the dome over the church's main entry, which had suffered severely from earthquake and fire.

Various religious Communities, which inhabit the structure, are cooperating in the raising

of the necessary funds. According to the Greek expert, \$1,500,000 will be needed to complete the repairs.

- The Church of the Holy Sepulchre was originally built during the reign of Constantine the Great. The present church is largely the work of 12th and 13th century Crusaders, with accumulated patchwork, additions and restorations of the last seven centuries. In 1927, the church was severely damaged by an earthquake; in 1949 by a fire; in 1954 by unusually heavy rains. Greek Orthodox, Armenian Apostolic, Latin Rite Romans, Ethiopian Coptic, Egyptian Coptic, and Syrian Orthodox groups occupy and control various areas of the interior. To avoid bitter conflict, which has been apparent from time to time, the keys to the structure are in the hands of Muslim authorities. - ED.



Ground Plan of the Holy Sepulchre Church

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ANGLICAN BISHOP BACKS NATIONALIZATION OF CEYLON CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS. Buddhist demands for the nationalization of Christian schools in Ceylon were supported by Anglican Bishop Hiyaniirindu Lakdasa Jacob De Mel of Kurunagala in a letter to the Ceylon Daily News of Colombo, Ceylon.

'It would seem a very sane and irenic move', said the bishop, 'for such schools - at any rate in the South - to be handed over to the government as desired by the Buddhist Advisory Council'.

The Buddhist group, which has a strong influence on the ruling party in Ceylon, has urged that all Christian schools be taken over by the State, except those where Christian students number less than 50% of the total.

As if in answer to the Anglican, the Roman Catholic Cardinal Gracias, Archbishop of Bombay, said shortly thereafter that the education bill, recently passed by the State of Kerala, India, will affect the entire Catholic educational set-up there. He expressed a lively fear that the bill will 'scotch, stifle, and ultimately eliminate the religious instincts in the people'.

- While Kerala and Ceylon are completely separate areas, it is interesting to note the philosophical and sociological differences, as evidenced by the two leaders of opposing parties of Christianity in that part of the world. The one showing interest in the well-being of the State and its populace; the other indicating the self-centered aspirations of the religious politico church dominion. - ED.

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SERBIAN MONASTERY CONVERTED TO NATIONAL MUSEUM. Yugoslavia's government has ordered another of the country's best known and most historic medieval Serbian Orthodox monasteries converted into a national museum.

The monastery, located at Gracanica in southern Serbia, near the Albanian border, was built by the

ROAD. Its many precious antiquities and treasures, long stored away, will now be placed
your view.

star, two other revered Orthodox shrines - the monastery at Visoki and that of the for-
matriarchal center at Pecs - were converted into museums and their treasures opened
your view.

the monasteries, mentioned above, are in Byzantine motif. They were built by former
of Serbia and are among the best preserved specimens of religious architecture in all
Bosnia.

Macanica monastery, built of marble, will house ancient manuscripts and books, along
many personal belongings of former Serbian patriarchs, precious icons, and sacred
objects of gold and ivory.

Another Serbian monastery, located near Trebinje in Herzegovina, is to be flooded soon; a
artificial lake is being created by the erection of a dam for hydro-electric purposes. It
was to be seen whether a public effort to have it dismantled and moved to a new location
was successful; otherwise.....it will go beneath the waters.(AREO,p.9, Nov.'58)

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THE ORTHODOX CHURCH TRANSFERS METROPOLITANS. Metropolitan Kyprianos
of Ierissos and Mt. Athos has been transferred to the Diocese of Sparta by the Holy
Synod of the Orthodox Church in Greece to replace Metropolitan Dionysius Dafnos, who was
asked to resign due to ill-health.

Metropolitan Dionysius of Lemnos meanwhile was transferred to the Diocese of Trikala to
replace Bishop Dorotheos who died recently(AREO, p.9, Feb.'59).

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THE KING PAUL VISITS MT. ATHOS MONASTERY. Hundreds of monks, singing hymns,
met King Paul when he paid a visit to the Greek Orthodox Monastery of Vetopedheon at
Kalymnos in Thessaloniki.

Women are not allowed ashore at Mt. Athos, the Queen Frederika and her two daughters
remained aboard the ship which brought the royal family to the 'Holy Mountain'.

Accompanying the King to the chapel of the monastery, the monks joined in chanting a 'Thanks-
giving Service'. Before leaving the environs, the monarch then planted a pine tree nearby the
place where, brother, King George II, had planted years before.

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BISHOP MAKARIOS VISITS DR. FISHER BEFORE GOING TO CYPRUS. The
renowned Archbishop Makarios, leader of the Greek Orthodox community in Cyprus,
made a 40-minute visit to Dr. Geoffrey Francis Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury, in London,
before leaving the three-power Conference that settled the independence of Cyprus. The meet-
ing took place after the signing of the mutual agreement between the Powers concerned.

The Archbishop also attended a 'Thanksgiving Service' at All Saints Greek Orthodox Church in
London Town (England). He was wildly cheered and received by some 2,500 Greek communi-
ty members of that church, when he delivered a spoken message before them.

Messages of good wishes poured in to the Archbishop, in London, from the King and Queen of
Cyprus; from Archbishop Theoklitos of Athens; and from many others.

Prime Minister Constantine Karamanlis of Greece also received his share of congratulatory
messages, from all over the Orthodox world, for the manner in which he handled his end
of the lengthy struggle for independence of Cyprus. - ED.

'OLD BELIEVER' RUSSIANS RESETTLED IN BRAZIL. After many years of negotiations by interested parties, some 500 'Old Believers', members of the Russian sect of that name, are finally moving into homes they have built on a 6,000 acre tract of land in the State of Parana, Brazil, where they were resettled thru the good offices of the World Council of Churches.

The bearded, picturesquely costumed farmers have become a 'tourist attraction' to all of southern Brazil; thousands of the curious have been driving in to see these people and examine them and their interesting customs.

According to 'World Outlook', the group has been split up into three separate settlements, each with 20 to 30 families in it, headed by a 'leader', who eventually will become a 'mayor' as soon as Parana can complete its registration of the settlements as 'townships'.

The immigrants started arriving from China last May. The last of them had all arrived by August. 'Hoping' to come are still another 200, who have been unable to get out of Manchuria for lack of funds.

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COMMUNIST YOUTH MAGAZINE URGES POLYGAMY IN POLAND. A Communist youth magazine suggested that because of the 'considerable shortage' of women in Poland, the government should permit polygamy. (Note: 'polygamy' is here used to denote more than one husband, rather than wives- ED.)

'Radar', noted for its ultra-progressive views, argued that polygamy was 'recognized as normal' in ancient times 'until the Roman Catholic Church condemned it.' The paper continued 'Now that the Catholic Church is no longer an official church in Poland, there should be no obstacle to reviving polygamy.'

- Apparently the publication is not aware that the Roman Catholic Church presently allows polygamy to be practiced among its followers in Africa. - ED.

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SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ASKED TO OUTLAW 'INSEMINATION'. Artificial insemination by a donor was condemned by the Dutch Reformed Church, Capetown, S.A. as 'violation of the sanctity of marriage'. The Church urged the government to enact legislation to outlaw the practice.

The statement declared that insemination 'amounts to adultery, even though there is no physical union and even though the legal husband has given his approval. It is contrary to the Word of God and Christian ethics and is a sin.'



'To kill, in time of war, they teach me, is very Christian, though.....now, I wonder what they really mean?'

Traveling thru the jungle of Africa, a missionary met a lion. Seeing that flight was hopeless, he dropped to his knees to pray. Moments later he was comforted to see the lion kneeling beside him.

'Dear brother' said the relieved missionary, 'how delightful of you to join me in prayer when a moment ago I feared for my life'.

'Don't interrupt,' said the lion, 'I'm saying Grace'.



TAXING BENEVOLENCES FROM ABROAD. All formal requests by American mission agencies for the Korean government to end its policy of taxing all non-territorial relief, benevolent, or charitable dollars entering the country have been rejected by the Ministry of Finance.

In the fall, the Ministry has been classifying all exchange transactions, by private organizations, under a category that causes a loss of about 15% in the exchange transaction rate from abroad for native currency. Peculiarly, commercial transactions fall under a category that benefits them in an opposite fashion.

As a result of this policy, many of the charity, educational and associated projects of these agencies have suffered severely - their original funds just can't meet their intended purpose.

'They say I am short-sighted.
What does that mean?'



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GREEK ORTHODOX RELIGIOUS SERVICES HELD IN JERUSALEM AND LYDDA. Jerusalem's Greek and Russian Orthodox communities joined in impressive liturgical ceremonies, marking the feast of St. Alexei, 14th century Metropolitan of Moscow.

Participation in the rites were Greek Orthodox Archbishop of Sebaste (Samaria), who crossed the Jordan with a large entourage; Greek Metropolitan Isodoros of Nazareth; and the Melkite Nicodim, head of the Russian mission in Israel. Inclement weather made it impossible for the Greek Patriarch Benediktos of Jerusalem to attend.

For Orthodox observance, the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem, after an interval of 60 years, once again officiated at St. George's Day services in the eponymous Cathedral in Lydda in Central Israel.

Lydda was martyred in Lydda, then an important city, during the reign of Diocletian; in the 4th century, an edifice was erected by Constantine the Great over the site of the tomb; this, in the 12th century, was reconstructed by the Crusaders - this old structure is now partly used as a Greek Orthodox Cathedral, and partly as a Moslem mosque.

Participation in the ceremony by clergy of the Armenian, Coptic and Jacobite rites, the Patriarch presided in resplendent robes of golden brocade. Leading the procession of some 20 bishops, monks and deacons, the Patriarch descended into the crypt beneath the Church, where a marble cenotaph marks the place of the Saint's burial.

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ORTHODOX EASTER FALLS ON MAY 3rd, 1959. Since the Jewish year 5719 is a leap year with an added month, the Eastern Orthodox Easter Observance falls on May 3rd this year of 1959. The week-long Passover Holiday of the Jews is observed from April 29 to May 5. The Eastern Church Holy Week starts with Palm Sunday on April 26th and ends on Easter Sunday, May 3rd.

The Ecumenical Council decreed that Christian Passover (Easter) would never occur at the same time, nor precede that of the Jews. Hence, the variance with Western (Latin) Easter, which falls on March 29th of this year.

Shavuot, which was always a Jewish festival, known as Shavuot (Feast of Weeks), became a Christian festival also, as the Day of the Descent of the Spirit took place at that time in the time of the Apostles. This year, Jewish Pentecost (50th day after Passover) falls on June 12th. Christian Pentecost falls on May 17th - Eastern Orthodox Pentecost on June 21st.

BAPTISM PERFORMED ON CIRCUS TIGHT-ROPE. Several 'air-minded' Roman Catholic faithful participated in a baptism performed on a circus tight-rope before a crowd of 4,000 persons at Saint Jean d'Angelly, in southwestern France.

Sonia Dolnay, eight-month old daughter of the manager of a team of circus performers, was baptized on a tight-rope 90-feet above the ground in the church square.

The baby was strapped to her godfathers chest, and he and the godmother took their place on the tight-rope. The priest was gallantly raised into the air atop the fire-ladder of the local department.

'My word. The height
some people will go to.'

* * * * *

COPTIC LEADER VISITS ISRAEL. Patriarch Gabriel El Anthony, newly appointed a spiritual head of Coptic communities in the Middle East, paid his first visit to his charge in Israel. He was greeted, on arrival, by officials of the Ministry of Religions on his first official visit to Israel.

The Patriarch spent four days inspecting the various Coptic churches and institutions in the State of Israel.

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METROPOLITAN JAMES OF MELITA SUCCEEDS ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL. The late Archbishop Michael of North and South America, deceased last year, was just succeeded by Metropolitan James of Melita. The Metropolitan was appointed to the post by the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Istanbul, Turkey.

The Turkish-born Metropolitan speaks English, French, Turkish and Greek. His place of birth was the island of Imbros, Turkey, where he was born in 1911. Graduated from the Hellenic School of Theology in 1934, he first served as a lay preacher and Sunday school teacher in the Imbros diocese and in 1939 was ordained a deacon.

In the same year, he was assigned to the N.Y. archbishopric as archdeacon. In 1940, he was ordained a priest and appointed chief vicar of the Greek Orthodox communities of N.Y., Boston, St. Louis, and Hartford, Conn. In 1954, he was appointed a professor at the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Seminary in Brookline, Mass. Later, he was made assistant dean, and finally dean of the school, itself. The same year he was elected Bishop of Melita (Malta).

The prelate was named the Ecumenical Patriarchate's liaison representative to the World Council of Churches in March, 1955. The following year he was made Titular Metropolitan of Melita, with residence in Geneva, Switzerland.

Last January, he was one of the four Orthodox leaders who attended the first Conference of European Churches, held at Nyborgstrand, Denmark. Their presence was hailed as a sign of continued co-operation among major Protestant and Orthodox denominations on both sides of the Iron Curtain.

- As mentioned in AREO, p. 18 - Sept. 1958, the Metropolitan was, at that time, already selected to head the post, vacated by the death of Archbishop Michael. The delay in the final announcement was due to indecision as to whether to separate the Western Hemisphere into three dioceses (Canada, U.S., South America). The Synod apparently made the choice to keep the administration integrated for the near future. - ED.

BISHOP ELECTED FOR AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND ORTHODOX. Bishop Ezekiel Tsoukalas of Nazianos, head of the Greek Orthodox Midwestern Diocese U.S., was just elected by the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate (Istanbul) Bishop of Australia and New Zealand, with the rank of Metropolitan.

He succeeded Metropolitan Theophylactos Papathanassopoulos, who was killed last August in a automobile accident. He had held the office for some thirty years.

Bishop-elect Ezekiel is now in Istanbul for confirmation of the appointment. He will then return to the U.S. for a farewell visit to the communities of his diocese before leaving for his post. His Seat will be in Sydney, Australia, where he will oversee the spiritual affairs of 160,000 Orthodox there and in New Zealand.

Bishop-elect Ezekiel was born in Patras, Greece, in 1913, he studied at the Theological School of the University of Athens and was ordained deacon in 1934; and as a priest the following year. After having been elevated to the rank of archdeacon to the Metropolitan of Patras and chancellor of the Metropolitanate of Athens, he came to the U.S. in 1937.

Bishop-elect Ezekiel served various parishes in Connecticut and Massachusetts and also studied philosophy and sociology at Harvard University. In 1943, he won a master of theology from the Holy Cross Theological Seminary in Brookline, Mass., and in 1949 he became dean of the seminary. In 1950, he was consecrated Titular Bishop of Nazianos. After serving in several dioceses for three years, he was named to the Midwestern diocese.

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PEASANTS ARRESTED IN SLAYING OF ORTHODOX MONK. Three peasants have been arrested and will be tried for the alleged slaying of a 68-year old Serbian Orthodox hermit in the remote mountains of Western Serbia, police authorities announced in Belgrade.

The monk, Nestor Maricic, was found dead shortly after Christmas in his tiny wooden hut which had been used as a chapel and located 15 miles from the famous monastery of Studenica, near to Zastava.

Police said that robbery was the motive for the crime, police said the peasants expected to find a large sum of money, but discovered only 20,000 dinars (\$66).

The monk, who had taken vows of silence and slept in an ancient sarcophagus, was killed with a sword, according to police.

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RUSSIAN CHURCH TO PARTICIPATE IN WORLD COUNCIL MEETING. The Russian Orthodox Patriarchal Church is expected to send observers to the meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches, scheduled to take place on the Island of Rhodes next August.

The Russian Church disclosed last month at the four-day meeting of the World Council's executive committee in Geneva.

A formal reply, however, has not yet been received, to date, from the Moscow Patriarchate as to the reestablishment of relations between it and the WCC. Such proposals had been discussed at the meeting in Utrecht last year.

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WORLD COUNCIL ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR 3rd ASSEMBLY IN CEYLON FOR 1961. Originally scheduled for 1960, the Third General Assembly of the World Council of Churches has now been officially set for December, 1961, in Peradeniya, Ceylon.

The World Council headquarters in Geneva stated that the important questions to be discussed hinge on

three phases: 1.Unity of the Church 2.Witness of the Church 3.Service of the Church. The general theme of the assembly will be : 'Jesus Christ, Light of the World'. This theme will be related to the 'missionary dimension of Christ's work thru His Church in the world, the spiritual and ethical demands of His purpose on individuals and churches, and Christ's fashioning and empowering His Church in its struggle with the powers of darkness.'

More than 600 leading churchmen from the 171 member communions will be present.Coming from 53 countries will be delegates of Protestant, Eastern Orthodox, Anglican, and Old Catholic churches.

The reason that the assembly was postponed one year(to 1961) was to give the member bodies of the International Missionary Council extra time to discuss a proposal for merging the IMC with the WCC. While integration action between the two has been acted upon, final action is slated to be undertaken at the World Council Assembly.

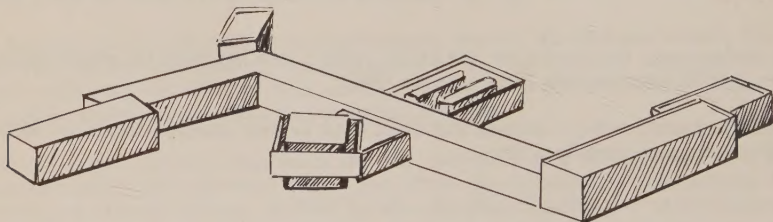
- The WCC was formed at its First Assembly in 1948 at Amsterdam, Netherlands. The Second Assembly was held in 1954 at Evanston, Illinois. - ED.

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START OF NEW WCC HEADQUARTERS SCHEDULED FOR FALL OF 1959. The World Council of Churches will break ground for its new headquarters about the time that the National Council of Churches moves into its new Interchurch Center(N.Y.C.), according to the National Council Outlook.

The first earth will be turned for the WCC headquarters in the fall of 1959. The extremely modern-stylized structure will have 236 rooms and be the net result of years of planning.It will be located close to the United Nations' Geneva building, as well as other international bodies that have offices there.

About one-fifth of the \$2,500,000 cost of the building is being provided by sources within the United States.



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THEOLOGIAN ISSUES CRITICISM AGAINST GREEK CHURCH'S ANTI-WCC STAND. A leading Greek Orthodox theologian, Dr. Hamilcar Alivisatos, issued a strong condemnation of the Orthodox Church in Greece for its refusal to allow any of its bishops or clergy from participating in the World Council of Churches.

The professor teaches theology at the University of Athens and has been a member of the WCC Central Committee. The Greek Church allows only laity to participate in the Council activities. Writing in Kathimerini, Athens daily, Dr. Alivisatos urged the Church to study the possibility of tightening the bonds among all the Orthodox Churches by modifying its attitude toward the World Council. He said that even if officials of the Greek Church know little about the WCC, they, at least, should realize that the ecumenical meetings sponsored by it have caused the Orthodox Churches to be better known and better understood by other Christian bodies.

Dr. Alivisatos stressed that by permitting her bishops to share in the work of the WCC, the Church would only be following in the footsteps set by the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Istanbul, which not only cooperates with the WCC, but also has an active representative to Council headquarters in Geneva.

DESIGNATED AS 'YEAR OF GREEK ORTHODOXY'. The Holy Synod of Greece designated 1959 as 'The Year of Greek Orthodoxy'.

purpose of the designation, it was stated, is to define and discuss the attitude of the Church toward proselytizing in Greece of other Christian bodies. To do this, lectures on forums will be held by prominent Greek theologians.

marking the Year, Archbishop Theoklitos of Athens was scheduled to address a meeting of preachers from all parts of Greece. The meeting will also discuss the activities of the Witnesses, the Eastern Rite Catholics, and various Protestant sects that are active in Greece. The meeting will be held in the monastery of Pendeli, near Athens, and will last three days.

* * * * *

ATMOSPHERE URGED IN CHRISTIAN UNITY EFFORTS. Students who completed a 4½ month course last month at the World Council of Churches' Ecumenical Institute in Geneva (near Geneva, Switzerland), during which they focused their attention on the Roman Catholic Church, were urged to bring a 'new atmosphere' to their denominations' Christian efforts.

Dr. Wolf, director of the Institute, in a closing lecture, told 42 students from 11 denominations of 21 countries not to return home 'self-satisfied'. He said Christians felt some 'anxiety' over proposals to establish relations between the WCC and the Russian Orthodox Church as well as over the proposed Ecumenical Council of Pope John XXIII.

Guest lecturers at the Institute, were three Catholics: Prof. J.G.M. Willebrands of Leiden; Abbe Paul Couturier of Le Puy, France; and Abbe Villian of Paris. Denominations represented among the students, included Lutheran, Disciples, Anglican, Congregational, Methodist, Presbyterian, Reformed, Orthodox, Baptist, Unitarian, Syrian Orthodox, and the Church of South India.

The student group constituted the largest group in the history of the Institute.- ED.

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ORTHODOX IN YUGOSLAVIA URGED TO PRACTICE RELIGION DESPITE REPRISAL. A Serbian Orthodox Church publication, 'Pravoslavni Misionar' (Orthodox Missionary), urged believers in Yugoslavia not to be afraid to practice their religion even though this sometimes results in 'unpleasantness' at the hands of atheists.

In a outspoken article, the bi-monthly publication, said 'there are people who dislike those who only celebrate and profess Christ.....and there sometimes individuals who suffer certain 'unpleasantnesses' because of their religious fidelity. The article continued: 'The law gives freedom of religious education by parents at home.....but.....maybe some parents or their children will have certain difficulties because of their devotion to the Church, but this has happened before and it will always be'.

Current laws permit religious education, but only outside the school. Teachers are obliged to forbid any expression of religious beliefs inside the State schools. (Note: A similar situation of State and Religion exists, of course, in the U.S. - altho it has, and is, being constantly tested in the courts of the land.- ED.)

The magazine stressed also that parents should give their children a feeling of pride in their religion, but also a developed attitude of caution towards atheists, to avoid unnecessary conflict.

'Unpleasantness' is not confined to so-called 'atheists'; to confirm this, one need merely read the book digest of the Polish National Catholic Church, elsewhere in this issue. That Church, right here in this country, suffered violence and indignities from other 'Christians'. Unbelievable, but true. - ED.

PSEUDO-RELIGIOUS RITES DEVELOPED IN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. In two instances, newly developed techniques for dealing with the age-old traditions of 'baptism' and 'name-giving' rites, have been inaugurated.

Communist authorities in Stalinstadt (East Germany) have issued regulations setting forth the principles and methods for promoting State 'Rites' to replace Christian ceremonies. The new 'rites' will include 'name giving ceremonies', 'Socialist weddings', and 'Socialist funerals'. Entitled 'Principles and Experiences Regarding Socialist Ceremonies with Respect to Birth, Marriage and Death', the party regulations are designed to replace the Christian ceremonies.

In southern Hungary, a new Communist 'name giving' rite was inaugurated at Pecs, according to Nepszabadsag, organ of the Hungarian Communist Party. This, the first ceremony, was held in a factory at the request of a worker named Mihaly Czirjanics, who wanted his baby 'baptized by the Communist Party and not by a priest'. The publication stated that the baby is now to be known as a Party child, as it has already started participating in the working class movement.



'We are thrilled to death over it.'

OLD CATHOLICS SIGN AGREEMENT WITH YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT. Under the terms of an agreement, just signed last month, the Old Catholic Church of Serbia clergy will now be entitled to participate in the State Social Insurance.

The agreement guarantees clergymen and their families free medical benefits. It also provides pensions for clergy in case of illness, disability or old age.

Bishop Milan Dobrovoljac signed the agreement on behalf of the Church. Later, he said: 'this fulfills the greatest wish of every clergyman, which is not to have to live on charity in his old age'. He expressed gratitude that 'this wish is being fulfilled by the government'.

Similar agreements had already been entered into by the Serbian Orthodox, Baptist, Christian Evangelical, Slovak Evangelical, Romanian Orthodox of Yugoslavia, Reformed Christian, and Moslem bodies.

'THE DEAD SEA SCRIPTURES'

An English translation in 350 pages.

This book renders a great portion of all the legible documents retrieved from the Dead Sea caves, together with a related text: - the so-called 'Zadokite fragment'.

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The Polish National Catholic Church

*NOTE: Written by Paul Fox, this book is available
from Rev. Thomas J. Gnat, 529 E. Locust St.
Scranton 5, Penna. for 2.65pp.*

story told here is as much as possible an account of contemporary witnesses. The Polish National Catholic Church fills a very important place in the religious life of America and of Poland. Religious bodies of this country should become acquainted with it.

essence, writes the author of this book. In a succinct and clear fashion he proceeds to the beginnings and future growth of the Church. For the interested reader, the following is presented. However, the full text should be perused for a complete understanding of facts and issues involved.

Early years of Polish immigration to America, a Roman Catholic parish was established in Scranton, Penna. Friction, as is often common, grew between the parishioners and the clergy.

Complaints to the diocese brought no action. In the resultant deepening of the people's dissatisfaction, a physical clash with the authority of the priest ensued. At the instance of the priest, police were called into action and members of the parish were clubbed and beaten; some were even jailed - much, as perhaps, the clergy were accustomed to have done in Europe.

In their endeavor to understand what had befallen them, the people sought out a former curate of the same church - one Reverend Father Francis Hodur, then a Roman Catholic priest in the Diocese of Nanticoke - whom they well-trusted. Having listened to their tale, Father Hodur told them they had two choices: 1. Submit 2. Build a new church, to which they must retain title of ownership.

At the beginning of 1897, the new church had been built - this having been their choice. The Roman Catholic bishop refused to consecrate it and also refused to appoint a priest thereto. Father Hodur was again turned to; the church was offered to him to pastor. He was faced with the dilemma: Help the people of his homeland (people who were treated harshly, overbearingly with continuous exploitation by the church of Rome) or remain steadfast to Rome. He chose the former and by the people. In March, 1897, he celebrated the first Mass in the new St. Stanislas Church.

When he also to have Rome embrace the Scranton church, he made a personal trip to Rome in 1903. There he saw various Cardinals, as well as the Pope's confessor. To them he presented the problem: 1. that local churches be allowed to hold title to properties 2. that each church be free to choose Parish Committees, without interference from the priest or bishop. He found the people have a voice in the assignment of parish priests.

After a long continuous rebuff in his petition, Father Hodur was finally told by the papal confessor, Cardinal Gormier, that 'the entire setup of the Church in Rome is largely financed by the bishops of America. Their administration, therefore, in their respective dioceses must be respected.' Father Hodur thus realizing that the papal authority was limited by the power of diocesan bishops, saw there was no hope and hence resigned himself to the inevitable and returned to his home in Scranton, Penna. Excommunication of the entire parish, along with Father Hodur, was the speedy reaction of Rome, thru the local bishops.

Father Hodur, himself, read the excommunication from the pulpit at St. Stanislas Church and burnt it to ashes and ordered it thrown in the stream that flowed at the foot of the hill on which the church building stood. He then declared that the Church of Rome, instead of saving souls, had been seeking and striving for wealth and power, for the splendor and glitter of gold and all things material. And, thus, it behooved all true Christians to strive to cleanse the

Church, even as Jesus cleansed the Temple. To do this, the Church must not become an end itself, but only the means of building the Kingdom on earth.

Hearing of this fire that swept the church, Polish peoples of Dickson City, Penna. invited Father Hodur to come and explain to them what this might mean. Within a short time after his visit, another church was thus organized under the name of St. Adalbert Polish National Catholic Church. Father Hodur was able to assign another Polish priest, Father Klawiter, to this new body.

The following ten years saw a great struggle and a sore trial for the Polish National Catholic Church; but, it also saw the coming of four more parish priests. Today, these four have all been elevated to the episcopacy of the Church. One of them, Most Reverend Leon Grochowski is the present Primate.

A third Polish National Church came into existence in Duryea, Penna. The Roman priest of this parish was an inveterate enemy of the National Church and he urged his people to pray for the people of the Scranton Church. Apparently, the prayers were heard, but not in the way the priest had intended. The minds of the people opened and Father Hodur was invited to speak to the people of Duryea. As a result, a new church was added to the National movement. In similar fashion, Polish peoples in Nanticoke, Wilkes-Barre, Baltimore, Chicago, Buffalo joined in the movement and swelled the ranks of the National Church. Litigation, persecution, violence, threats, and many other human efforts were exerted against the Movement to try to stop it, but all to no avail.

In 1922, the establishment of a mission to Poland itself was effected. Bishop Francis Bonczak of the Polish National Catholic Church was entrusted with the task; he chose Cracow as his episcopal seat. Here a seminary was established. Within a short time, local National Churches sprang up. For this daring step, the people in those places were subjected to a 'baptism of fire' by the police, always a ready tool of the Roman clergy. Constant persecution, arrest, beatings and anathemas all failed to stem the going forward of the National Church in Poland. Eventually, the government formally recognized the existence of the Church and issued orders that the Prefecture would not again interfere with clergy of the National Church.

In survey, some sixty years have now passed by since the start of the Polish National Catholic Church. Today, there exist 140 churches in the U.S.A.; in Poland, over 100 are in operation; a membership in the Western Hemisphere totaled over a quarter million; in Poland, an estimated membership of some 400,000 was recorded in 1939.

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DOMESTIC



ALBANIAN LAYMAN EXPLAINS HIS CODE OF BELIEF. Writing in the Detroit Free Press (front page, 17th of February, '59), Victor Chacho, a layman of the St. Thomas Albanian Catholic Church of Detroit, explained the basis of his religious belief in a concise and logical

'My Religion Means To Me' is the title of a series of special articles being featured in the Detroit Free Press. Mr. Chacho entitled his article: 'Code of Conduct and Spiritual Progress.'

So aptly put it, 'I distinguish three kinds of law: Divine, Natural and Civil.....if I conduct myself publicly and privately in accordance with the law of God I will necessarily keep both the divine and civil laws'. He continued: '...natural law covers the broad expanse of human needs and I must learn to control.....(in this)....I must have idealism to reach top performance.... Divine law....governs my action....(in)....society for the....common interest of all. If I have anything away from my religion, I will be.....a transgressor.....my religion further obligates me not only to preserve the common interest myself, but also to impose it on others.....Thus, my standing thus help the fallen, all the fallen eventually regain their standing.....My religion means...therefore, the infallible code for the conduct of my life.....'

* * * * *

WINE-DISPENSER INVENTED FOR PROTESTANT COMMUNION GLASSES. A new wine dispenser, that can fill as many as sixty communion glasses with wine or grape juice at one time, has been patented by a Baptist pastor.

James O. Duncan of Adelphi, Md., has a congregation of 400 and as many as 200, at a single service for communion. To handle the volume he devised a bowl with a valve for each glass that is set beneath it. Handles release the flow of liquid equally to all glasses. Mr. Duncan says that large churches will benefit exceedingly from the use of such a device. As he explains the present practice of filling individual glasses, often keeps several persons busy for a long time, prior and during a service.

'Copycat'



* * * * *

RUSSIAN CHURCH CHOIR REORGANIZED. The 'a capella' choir of St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church of Gary, Indiana, has just been reorganized under the able direction of Eugene Adamcyk. Mr. Adamcyk teaches music at Evans school in Hobart, Indiana.

The choir will give its first public appearance in St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Hammond, Indiana, on March 22nd. The choir not only sings at various church services, but also at weddings and socials. Folk-singing and dancing are part of the repertoire. The choir won fame in 1935 as the winner in the Chicagoland Music Festival.

MINNESOTA WELFARE BOARD RESTRICTS BIRTH CONTROL INFORMATION. The Ramsey County Welfare Board has 'spelled-out' conditions under which its clients may obtain birth control information.

The Board's action came on the heels of a controversy, which started when Ruth L. Bowman, its executive secretary, distributed a memorandum, early last month, forbidding any birth control information to be distributed by social workers in Ramsey County; nor were the social workers even allowed to as much as refer anyone to a proper authority for such information.

The new ruling is a conciliatory modification of this dictatorial stand. Now, a social worker may refer married women to Ancker Public Hospital, which may, in turn, refer them to the clinic operated by the Planned Parenthood Ass'n. of St. Paul, Minn.

Prompting the change in the Board's attitude was the uproar from Protestant, Jewish and non-sectarian health organizations. No statement was made as to the religious belief or marriage status of Ruth L. Bowman.

● An international Protestant Conference on 'The Population Problem and Responsible Parenthood' will be held at Oxford, England, April 13-15, at the request of the World Council of Churches and the International Missionary Council. The Conference's secretary, Dr. R.M. Fagley, termed the population explosion 'the chief enemy of free society in the world today' and that there was no solution to this problem unless 'it includes a slowing down of the explosion itself thru birth control.....General development, larger food supplies and migration only alleviate the problem, but they don't solve it.' He said that the United Nations and governmental agencies hesitate to raise the issue of artificial birth control because of fear of opposition of Roman Catholics. He declared the purpose of the Conference is to provide a concrete theological and ethical foundation for the Protestant Church to use as an alternative to the Catholic position. - ED.

* * * * *

NATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT FOR SERBIAN ORTHODOX YOUTH. The Serbian Orthodox National Federation sponsors an annual National Basketball Tournament for the Serbian Youth. These tournaments are held in various Serbian parishes from year to year. This year, the tournament will be held in South Chicago, Illinois, March 27,28,29. The host parish will be that of St. Archangel Michael Church of South Chicago.

South Chicago was a host parish once before to the National Federation Basketball Tourney; this was in 1951, when the XIII National Meet was held there. A Testimonial Souvenir Book has been prepared for the occasion; it contains information on previous tournament history, the pairing of teams, transportation data, social programs, etc.

* * * * *

ROMAN PRIEST ENTERS BYZANTINE RITE TO CONVERT ORTHODOX. A young Jesuit priest has been granted permission to transfer from the Latin to the Byzantine Rite in order to fulfill his dream of working to unite the Russian Orthodox peoples with Rome.

He is the Rev. George A. Maloney, S.J., of the Jesuit Wisconsin Province, now spending his year of tertianship at the Order's St. Joseph Hall, Decatur, Ill. A native of Green Bay, Wis., he was ordained in 1957. Like many of the Jesuits, he wears a beard and has studied elementary Russian.

'We all dream while we are growing up'



PROTECTION TO PROTECT CONFIDENCES MADE TO CLERGY IN CONGRESS.
J.B. Keating (R-NY) has introduced a bill in the U.S. Senate that would grant exemptions to members of the clergy and press from being required by any Federal Court to reveal confidences committed to them in their professional capacity. Bi-partisan support was shown for the bill when Senator H.H. Humphrey (D.-Minn.) announced his support and co-sponsorship of the bill. The bill is known as S. 965.

Similar legislation, limited to clergy however, has been introduced in the House by Rep. A.J. Connerly (D.-NY). The bill is known as H.R. 3493.

Mr. Multer said: 'It is frightening to contemplate that in our country, which prides itself on separation of Church and State, that a citizen may be compelled to make a choice between upholding the protection of the 5th Amendment against self-incrimination and following the traditional requirements of his religion in order to get spiritual absolution'. Such a situation should occur unless a citizen can be sure his confidential communications with a clergyman are privileged, Mr. Multer pointed out.

* * * * *

PROCLAMATION SOUGHT TO MAKE JANUARY 22nd UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY.
A resolution was introduced in the U.S. Senate earlier this year to authorize the President of the U.S.A. to issue a proclamation designating January 22 of each year as Ukrainian Independence Day.

The resolution - S.J. Res. 20 - was introduced by Senator Prescott Bush (Conn.) and Senator Jacob K. Javits (N.Y.) gave endorsement. The resolution was referred to committee, in accordance with Senate Rules.

* * * * *

UKRAINIAN PRIEST PRAISED ON 7th YEAR OF RADIO BROADCASTING. Reverend Paul Darmoc of St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Hammond, Indiana was given recognition by his people, last month, for completion of his full seventh year of Radio Broadcasting on the area Radio Station - WJOB.

As the 'Ukrainian Family Hour', Father Darmoc has seen the program grow and develop over the years, both in listening audience and in degree of quality and service rendered. The program is aired from 10:00 to 10:30 P.M. and tapers both spiritual and cultural elements to the listening audience.

* * * * *

DECLARES JUDAISM TO BE BASED SOLELY ON THE 'LAW'. A prominent rabbi from the N.Y. area, recently stated that 'Law is the essence of the Jews' relation to his faith, to religion, and his attitude toward God'.

He gave three reasons as to why this: 1. To perceive and obey the law is to bring order out of chaos in imitation of the act of creation. 2. Law requires the use of reason, which is man's

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"Sometime at Eve"

Sometime at eve, when the tide is low,
I shall slip my mooring and sail away,
with no response to the friendly hail
of kindred craft in the busy bay.

In the silent hush of the twilight pale,
when the night stoops down to embrace the day.
And the voices call in the water's flow -
Sometime in eve, when the tide is low,
I shall slip my mooring and sail away.

A few who have watched me sail away
will miss my craft from the busy bay,
some friendly barks that were anchored near,
some loving souls that my heart held dear,
in silent sorrow will drop a tear -

But I shall have peacefully furled my sail
in moorings sheltered from storm or gale,
and greeted friends who have sailed before
O'er the Unknown Sea to the Unseen Shore.

Lizzie Clark Hardy



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reflection of Divine Intelligence. 3. Law acts as a restraint on human passions.

Benjamin Kreitman, who uttered this statement of belief for Judaism, found a sympathizer in a somewhat parallel utterance by Rabbi Joseph Zeitlin, of neighboring Whitestone. This speaker said that St. Paul sought to interpret the Scripture by the 'spirit'; but that the religion says 'Law' is the focal point of interpretation, for it is an expression of our ideals, before we translate justice into law, the better the world we will have.

To suggest such a short synthesis of a great Faith, one must poke, at the points raised, with a stinging finger. If the importance of 'Law', as Rabbi Kreitman says, is based partly on the self reason - one must also say that so is crime and every other thought-out act of anti-social, selfishly-inspired human act. Reason does not imply a good motive; it only implies a thought-out process'. Hence, faith based on 'Law', from this viewpoint, can imply a religion which allows free vent to human frailties and human efforts of exploitation over others. Identification by law, as a typified act of human conduct, was well delineated by St. Paul and, as explained, calls for the vengeance of the law on the invoker. Thru the Spirit, however, freedom is obtained by the individual - for his life is controlled by love of his fellowman, more than by a conduct of rules. As for Rabbi Zeitlin's thought that justice is progressive in developing codes of law, let it be mulled over that humans, until they become sanctified, serve the law as something to be evaded, rather than as a means for justice. Examples of the greatest criminals going free and the lesser being punished, proves this. - ED.

* * * * *

THE HYMN COLLECTION TO BE ISSUED IN PAPERBACK EDITION. By next year, a paperback collection of 118 hymns will be in print, according to the decision of Music of the National Council of Church, which met in Evanston, Illinois.

For use in homes, in interdenominational gatherings, and by radio and TV stations, the book will be sold thru drug stores, supermarkets, newsstands, and book stores.

Protestant denominational hymnals were used by the commission in selecting the 118 hymns. The book will represent the work of some four years by a seven-member committee, headed by Luther Noss, dean of the Yale University School of Music.

* * * * *

THE CHURCH WINS TOP NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AWARD. The 19th Annual Conference on Church Architecture was the scene at which a number of awards were given both to individuals and churches for outstanding contributions to architecture and/or art. Among the award winners, were two Greek Orthodox Churches: 1. St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church of Minneapolis, Minn. 2. Greek Orthodox Church of Oakland, Calif. Details of the awards are here given, as being especially of interest.

By more than 1,000 delegates, the Conference was sponsored by the National Council of Churches' Dep't. of Church Building and the Church Architectural Guild of America. Boston architect Arland A. Dirlam was chairman of the contest jury. He stated that this year's contest had the largest number of entries - more than 150 - ever submitted. He also summarized the findings: 'Gradually we are emerging with a design expression that might well be known as American Architecture'.

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church of Minneapolis won the award in the category of churches with more than 250 persons, along with seven other churches that shared equal honors. On previous occasions the church has also won other awards: 1. The Minnesota Society of Architects' award for 1958 2. The Twin Cities Society of Illuminating Engineers.

The church was designed by the Firm of Thorshov and Cerny, Inc., architects of Minneapolis. It cost \$100,000 to erect. Consisting of three units: church, auditorium and school, it was built to meet the growing needs of the Greek Community of the lake area of Minneapolis. The property

overlooks the beautiful Lake Calhoun, in Minneapolis proper. (A photo is shown below)

In another award, for 'beauty of craftsmanship', a retired Navy rear-admiral won first prize for his creation of a five-piece silver communion set. Rear Adm. Jack Bowling of Philadelphia showed a hand-made chalice, two candle holders, cross and tray. Second place went to Mr. Jamme for a four-foot high carving in mahogany of the Madonna and Child.



CHURCH CONSTRUCTION TO ATTAIN NEW HEIGHTS. Spurred on by an expanding and mobile population, Protestant and Orthodox church construction will strike new highs for years to come. Some of the projects in mind for Eastern Orthodox are shown on following pages. A total average of yearly building of Protestant and Orthodox churches is anticipated to be about 6,000. This was a prediction of the National Council of Churches Dep't. of Church Building.

As Rev. Frey, chairman of the department, said: 'Only the congregation that knows what they believe and want will be able to furnish the architect with the kind of data that will enable him to design creatively for that particular Christian community - the primary task in all church and church-related building programs is to see that what is wanted, and believed in, gets said in what is built'.

The Dep't of Commerce released January and February figures on Church construction for current year. A new January mark of \$73,000,000 was set. February was reported at an estimated \$70,000,000.

Church construction for the first two months of 1959 was, thus, about 9% ahead of the same period for 1958.

'TIME CALLED' IN CHURCH

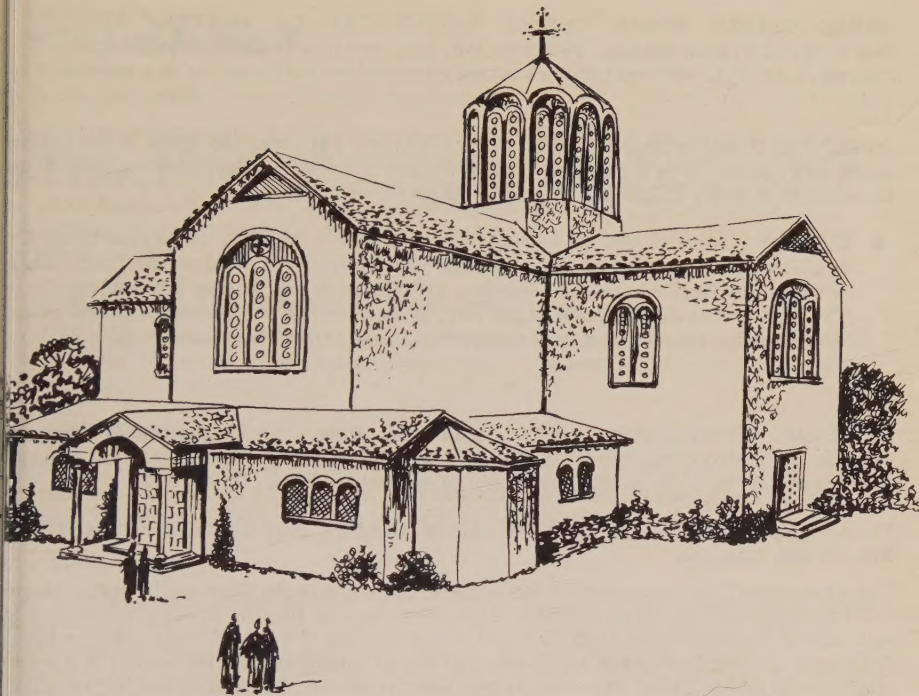
Kent Melton, a 5 year-old, who knows the rule of football and basketball, can also discuss the games intelligently.

Attending church recently, in Maysville, Okla., he turned to his mother and said:

'I'm tired, let's go home at the half.'

A TABLE OF LENTEN AND EASTER DATES

Year	Orthodox Lent Begins	Orthodox Easter Falls	Latin Lent Begins	Latin Easter Falls
1959	March 16	May 3	Feb. 11	March 22
1960	Feb. 29	April 17	March 2	April 12
1961	Feb. 20	April 9	Feb. 15	April 5
1962	March 12	April 29	March 7	April 22
1963	Feb. 25	April 14	Feb. 27	April 14
1964	March 17	May 5	Feb. 12	March 29
1965	March 8	April 25	March 3	April 13
1966	Feb. 21	April 10	Feb. 23	April 10
1967	March 13	April 30	Feb. 8	March 26
1968	March 3	April 21	Feb. 28	April 14
1969	Feb. 24	April 12	Feb. 19	April 6
1970	March 9	April 26	Feb. 11	March 29



MEMORIAL GREEK ORTHODOX SEMINARY CHAPEL IS PROPOSED. Pictured above is the proposed Memorial Chapel to be constructed on the grounds of the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Theological School in Brookline, Mass.

The Memorial Chapel is a gesture of gratitude, a lasting tribute from all of our people to the memory of our late spiritual leader, Archbishop Michael,' so writes the National Memorial Committee.

G.O.Y.A. (Greek Orthodox Youth of America) has embarked upon the sponsorship of the Memorial Chapel Drive to erect this beautiful and long-needed Chapel at Holy Cross Theological School. When erected, it will be dedicated as a permanent tribute to the founders of all the Churches and Communities, who are the parents of the Youth. Working with G.O.Y.A., the clergy, whose inspiration and guidance in this project are being channeled thru the efforts of the Alumni Ass'n. of the School itself.

The Greek Orthodox peoples will be given the opportunity to not only help with the funds for the building of the Chapel, but also to have their names permanently inscribed in the Book of Donors, which will always remain on display in the proposed Memorial Chapel.

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GREEK CHURCH HOLDS UNITED 'WORLD DAY OF PRAYERS' SERVICE. The World Day of Prayer Service, February 13th last, was held in at least one Greek Orthodox Church in the U.S., with various Protestant communions participating in a sanctuary observance.

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, Tarpon Springs, Fla., was the scene of the Service, which was sponsored by the United Church Women of the area. Participating local churches were the Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian and Universalist.

- Christians, from around the world, unite in prayer on this day for praise to the Creator of all mankind. As the Day always dawns first (by time element) on the Tonga Islands, that is where the first Service commences, with Queen Salote leading her subjects in prayer. The last, and closing Service of the Day, is observed on St. Lawrence Island, Alaska, as the Day fades into the past with the transit of night over that island. - ED.

* * * * *

ARMENIAN ANNIVERSARY BALL HELD IN NEW YORK. The 13th Anniversary Ball given by the metropolitan chapters of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America, took place February 7th in the Penn Room of the Statler-Hilton Hotel, N.Y.

The participating ACYOA groups were from St. Gregory, Holy Cross, Long Island, Union City, Newark and Paterson.

The Armenian Church of America has some 42 parishes in its Diocese. Recently elected (Nov. 1958) to a four-year term as Primate of the Diocese, was His Grace Archbishop Sion Manogian. Archbishop Manogian was born 52 years ago in the city of Van, Armenia. He was educated in the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem and was ordained in 1930. He served pastorates in U.S.A. from 1938 to 1953. Till 1959, he has been Archbishop Nuncio, of His Holiness the Catholicos, to the Armenian Diocese of South America. He only arrived in N.Y. last month to take his new duties.

* * * * *

RELIGIOUS ENTERPRISES RECEIVE 51% OF ALL U.S. PHILANTHROPY IN 1958. Religious giving to religious enterprises in this country last year reached \$3,641,000,000, more than half the total of all philanthropy for 1958.

The figures were released by the American Ass'n. of Fund-raising Counsel. It said that religious contributions were 51% of the total \$7,100,000,000 for the year. The balance was divided among welfare, 18%; health, 14%; education, 12%; foundations, 3%; miscellaneous, 2%.

The Ass'n. also said that church contributions for overseas relief since World War II come to about \$300,000,000, while private giving for this purpose during the same period reached \$7,000,000,000.

* * * * *

GREEK SAILORS RECONDITION TEXAS CHURCH. Crewmen of Greek vessels putting into Port Arthur, Texas, last month finished reconditioning St. George's Greek Orthodox Church there by painting the outside trim of the brick structure.

The reconditioning project was undertaken by Father Theodore Kyritsis, who assumed the pastorate about six months ago. Greek sailors, who visit the port, are unable to aid much in a financial fashion, but offered their labor instead.

The Port Arthur fire department furnished the loan of ladders; some 20 crewmen then did their cheerful labor.

All churches would be greatly aided if their own membership would volunteer their labor for similar tasks on their own house of worship, wherever it might be. - ED.

DO YOU KNOW?

What is the fundamental basis of Jewish Sacred Days?

A majority of outstanding Jewish festivals are outgrowths of an agricultural economy. Therefore, one finds no Jewish Sacred Days connected with the birth or death of an historic personage, such as is common in other Major Faiths. In substance, then, the revelation of Judaism was not by any one single master, but rather by the growth of an entire agricultural community of peoples, who were led, from time-to-time, by many diversified leaders.

What is the meaning of the expression 'Church Year'?

'Church Year' is the term applied to the regular succession of seasons, feasts and fasts in the calendar of the Christian Church, which, while it varies in different communions, is essentially identical at many points.

Who was the founder of monasticism?

Anthony the Hermit, whose followers formed the first religious community of monasticism. At the age of 20, Anthony, who was born in Coma, Egypt, gave away his inheritance to the poor, and for twenty years lived in solitude in the desert.

Who is Beelzebub?

The word is derived from the Hebrew "Ba'al zebub" (Lord of Flies). Referred to by the Pharisees as an evil spirit, a prince of the devils - the term has crept into use from ancient pagan sources, thru the Hebrews. Baal, of the Old Testament days, was the chief deity of the Phoenicians and Canaanites, even as Ashtoreth was the principal female deity. Both the worship of Baal and Ashtoreth was common among the Hebrews. Among the Hebrews, even human sacrifice was made to Baal. Briefly, one might say that Baal and Beelzebub are names given to the unknown Nature forces that Man has always sought to appease, in his quest for self-satisfaction. Even today, Man makes offerings, thru superstition, to similar Ideas (by whatsoever name may commonly be given them in any given circumstance). In other situations, some men also make sacrifice to these 'Gods' in a deliberate, conscious and ritualistic act: usually called the 'Black Mass'. Such a sacrifice has even been common in and among leaders of the Christian Church, both past and present (i.e.-leaders of liturgical, European bodies); it being a popular practice to which the ruling houses of the European Kings often turned for 'guidance' and 'power'.

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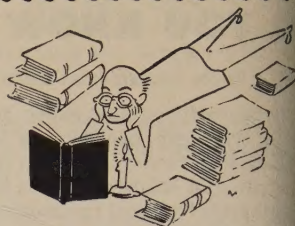
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